Building Stronger Students, Families and Communities Through Storytelling

Benefits to Americans All Members

➢ An online story on your school, family, group or business and the ability to host stories of students, staff, members and clients on free Legacy Partner home pages
➢ An opportunity to encourage your students, staff, members and clients to celebrate their identity and preserve their legacy through their own storytelling
➢ Access to our approved, inclusive social studies resources, including musical recordings, period-specific photos and a U.S. history chronology of peoples, cultures and ideologies
➢ Use of our secure announcement e-mail tool

Features of Online Stories

➢ Published in multiple languages on our Web-based Heritage Honor Roll and, for more exposure, on the home pages of our Legacy Partners
➢ Enhanced with photographs and audio and video recordings
➢ Password protected, if desired, and linkable to social media sites

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Everybody has a story to share with family, friends and future generations, and we make this possible in an easy and inexpensive way. Together these stories lend insight on our nation’s social fabric and history.

Our 32-year-old nonprofit foundation encourages everybody to share their life stories and learn about the contributions that all people have made—and continue to make—to our nation. A one-time, tax-deductible membership fee of only $49—or $24.50 by use of discount Legacy Partner Promo Code—registers an individual for Americans All, provides a template to create a story and affords access to our social studies materials.

Reinforcing our belief that legacy preservation and social studies education are closely linked, we invest more than half of our membership fees to support excellence in social studies instruction. Because education is a lifelong pursuit, we give our members a free, 3-month trial subscription to our Social Legacy Network to get even more benefits.

Importance of Storytelling and Legacy Preservation

Storytelling is key to the transfer of wisdom, knowledge and experiences between generations. Stories begin at birth, and legacies are built every time a personal, academic or professional milestone is achieved. For students, creating a story can be a wonderful intergenerational bonding experience and affords a valuable service learning opportunity and language arts exercise. Storytelling:

- Celebrates events, memories and accomplishments;
- Enables an individual to control how he or she is thought of and/or remembered.
- Ensures the significance of a lifetime will not be lost forever or, in the case of an unexpected event, wind up as an incomplete, costly and short-lived newspaper obituary.

Value of Social Studies Instruction

A social studies education develops critical-thinking skills and teaches students how to evaluate different perspectives, assess the validity of evidence, work in groups and apply facts in decision-making. This subject matter prepares students to participate successfully in our nation’s democracy, economy and workforce. Importantly, our inclusive Americans All social studies materials focus on factors that help unite—rather than divide—the American people. Our program will use Web-based technology to enhance teachers’ capacity to use our resources and other social studies information most effectively.

Benefits of Membership in Our Americans All Program

Americans All members can create and edit a legacy story and share and preserve it forever on our Web-based Heritage Honor Roll and on the home pages of our Legacy Partners. This story:

- Can contain up to 2,000 words, of which 1,000 can be password protected.
- Can be published in multiple languages and be updated at no cost.
- Can be enhanced with photographs and audio and video recordings.
- Can include links to other Heritage Honor Roll legacy stories, social media sites and other Web pages.
- Can take advantage of our secure event, anniversary and memorial information e-mail tool.
- Can be shortened to print on an 8½” x 11” template to share with family and friends.

Members and their families can also access our existing K–12 social studies information—a $500 value.

Benefits of Membership in Our Social Legacy Network

The free, 3-month Social Legacy Network trial subscription gives members and their families access to:

- Our new resource databases with teaching tools and texts, photographs and songs.
- CollegeSave to receive homework help for children and grandchildren and earn up to $53,000 in college tuition discount points that can be used at more than 385 colleges in 45 states. [During the trial period, a family can earn 1,750 points, worth $1,750 in college tuition discounts (each point is worth $1 in discounts). By joining the Social Legacy Network after the trial period ends, a family can earn an additional $250 in college tuition discounts each month.];
- Discounts on goods and services from our partners, and e-newsletters with money-saving tips.

These benefits can continue after the trial period ends for only $4 per month.
Personalized Home Page for Legacy Partners

Legacy Partners are schools, families, groups and businesses whose missions reinforce our goals of creating and sharing legacy stories and supporting excellence in social studies instruction. They participate in our program for free because they:

- Create personalized home pages—in multiple languages, if desired on our Web site to share information about themselves and/or teams, groups, chapters, divisions and locations;
- Host on their home pages, Heritage Honor Roll legacy stories to provide further exposure for these stories; and
- Are provided a 6-digit Promo Code so students, staff, members, and clients can join Americans All at a 50 percent discount rate without any administrative costs being incurred.

Legacy Stories from the Americans All Heritage Honor Roll

Our school, family, group or business is pleased to host and share these legacy stories created by our students, staff, members and clients.

Maxime “Max” Chalmin [Chalmin Family] (October 7, 1909 - April 30, 1977) Executive Chef /node/548408
My father, Maxime Chalmin, was born in Coulandon, France, in October 1909. In his late teens and beyond, and after a series of “apprenticeship” assignments as was the professional development protocol in those days, he came to the United States as a cook at the Belgian Pavilion at the 1939 New York World's Fair.

Constantine "Connie" Foltis [Constantine Foltis Memorial Foundation] (December 1, 1929 - June 16, 2011) Naval Architect /node/434148
Constantine “Connie” Foltis was born in New York City on December 1, 1929, and died at Bailey Family Center for Caring of Community Hospice in St. Augustine, Florida, on June 16, 2011. Those who knew him at the center would never forget his generosity, talent, laughter, friendship, love, and compassion.

Stories can be published in any character set
My father, Maxime Chalmin, was born in Coulandon, France, in October 1909. In his late teens and beyond, and after a series of "apprenticeship" assignments as was the professional development protocol in those days, he came to the United States as a cook at the Belgian Pavilion at the 1939 New York World's Fair. Once completed, he returned to France but vowed to return to the United States to start a new life. After the war which he spent in Vichy, France with his new wife Marcelle and newborn son, he left France behind to pursue his dream. In 1948, he landed (again) in New York harbor with his wife and a 4 year old son to begin this saga. It was to be the fulfillment of a lifelong dream and the beginning of another.

As a young man, raised by a widowed mother in central France, he was always restless as he pursued his passion of being a chef. In France at the time, "apprenticeships" involved working and studying under leading chefs and travelling to other countries to learn new cuisines and cooking methods - which he did. He loved and learned in these "apprentice stages" in Paris, the Cote d'Azur, Cuba, America and Morocco (where he almost left his new family were it not for a last minute visa to the US)!

Read More . . .

Pour afficher cette histoire en français, cliquez ici.
Maxime “Max” Chalmin, est né à Coulandon, un petit village au Centre de la France, en Octobre, 1909. Après sa scolarité et plusieurs filaments comme apprenti (comme cela se faisait à l’époque) il se dirige vers le métier de la restauration et il arrive aux États Unis en 1939 comme cuisinier au pavillon Belge de l’Exposition Internationale à N.Y. Il est revenu ensuite en France, mais avec l’espoir de revenir ensuite en Amérique pour y démarrer une nouvelle vie. Après la guerre, qu’il passe à Vichy avec sa femme Marcelle et son jeune fils, il a quitté la France en 1948 pour enfin réaliser son rêve. En 1948 donc, il est revenu à New York avec sa femme et son fils de 4 ans, c’était l’aboutissement de son rêve et le commencement de sa vraie vie. 

En France, en ce temps-là, l’apprentissage consistait à travailler pour apprendre de nouvelles méthodes de cuisine sous l’autorité de grands « chefs ». C’est ce qu’il a fait: il aimait apprendre durant ces stages à Paris, sur la Côte D’Azur, à Cuba, et au Maroc. Un visa de dernière minute pour les USA lui a été octroyé.
Ο Κωνσταντίνος (επίσης γνωστός ως Κόνι) Φόλτης γεννήθηκε στη Νέα Υόρκη την 1η Δεκεμβρίου 1929, και απεβίωσε στο Οικογενειακό Κέντρο Φροντίδας Bailey για Κοινοτική Φροντίδα Τέλος Ζωής στην πόλη του Αγίου Αυγουστίνου της Φλόριντα στις 6 Ιουνίου 2011. Όσοι τον γνώριζαν στο κέντρο δεν θα ξεχάσουν ποτέ την γεναιοδωρία του, το ταλέντο του, το γέλιο του, τη φιλία του, την αγάπη του, και την ευσπλάχνεια του πνεύματος του. Οι άνθρωποι που θα μπορούσαν να συναντήσουν τον γενναιοδωρία του, το ταλέντο του, το γέλιο του, τη φιλία του, την αγάπη του, και την ευσπλάχνεια του, θα μπορούσαν να συναντήσουν ποτέ κανείς. Το πνεύμα του ζει μέσα από τις ζωές που άγγιξε και μέσω του Ιδρύματος Κωνσταντίνου Φόλτη που ονομάστηκε εις μνήμη και προς τιμήν του. Η διαθήκη του ανέθεσε στην οικογένειά του να θάψουν την τέφρα του στη θάλασσα.

Ο πατέρας και η μητέρα του Κόνι μετανάστευσαν στις Ηνωμένες Πολιτείες από τη Ρωσία και τη Σκωτία, αντίστοιχα. Ο πατέρας του Κόνι μεγάλωσε σε μια ελληνική κοινότητα της Ρωσίας και έπλευσε σε όλο τον κόσμο μέχρι που έφθασε στη Νέα Υόρκη, όπου ξεκίνησε στον τομέα του φαγητού στρώχνοντας ένα καροτσάκι με ντόνατς. Έχτισε γρήγορα μια αλυσίδα 33 εστιατορίων φημισμένα στη Νέα Υόρκη. Ο ελληνικός πολιτισμός κυριαρχούσε την οικογένεια και την επιχείρησή του.

Ο Κόνι μεγάλωσε στο Φλάσινγκ της Νέας Υόρκης μαζί με της δύο μεγαλύτερες αδελφές του που ονομάζονταν Χέλεν και Τζίνι. Η εκτεταμένη οικογένεια του Κόνι παραθέριζαν κάθε χρόνο στο εξοχικό του. Read more . . .

To view this story in English, click here
As part of their one-time, tax-deductible $49 registration fee (or $24.50 by using a Legacy Partner Promo Code), Americans All members can also create a shorten version of their online legacy story (up to 500 words), and print it in an 8½” x 11” format.

The story, which can also be created and printed in multiple languages, can include a portrait or an image and up to two member logos. It can also be updated at any time, at no cost, and all revisions are permanently stored and easily accessed.
Standard textbooks used to teach social studies are like encyclopedias in which facts follow facts and no sense of drama or story exists. Students discover that things happened, but rarely is it clear why they happened or whether it mattered. Often the result is that young people tune out the past. We aim to accommodate students’ different interests and learning styles and keep them engaged.

**Music of America's Peoples**

Our CD contains 22 original recordings of historic songs representing diverse ethnic and cultural groups. The *teacher’s guide* contains background information and the recordings' scores and lyrics.
People of America Foundation

Who We Are

Our nonprofit foundation’s Americans All program helps individuals and families inexpensively record and archive their stories, with text, photos and videos and in multiple languages. A section of the online story can be password protected, and a shortened version can be printed out in an 8½” x 11” template to be shared with family and friends. To help ensure all schools and teachers have access to state-approved, grade-level-specific supplemental social studies resources to use in classroom instruction, we invest more than half of our membership fees to support excellence in K–12 social studies instruction. Importantly, participating schools receive our resources at no cost.

What We Do

We aim to tie the compelling need to preserve legacies with the essential goal of imparting good citizenship skills. Storytelling is key to the transfer of wisdom, knowledge and experiences between generations, and it can lead to greater understanding and compassion. A social studies education teaches students how to evaluate different perspectives, assess the validity of evidence, work in groups and apply facts and decision-making. This subject matter prepares students to succeed in our nation’s democracy, economy and workforce while promoting long-standing American values of diversity, tolerance and inclusion. Importantly, our instructional resources focus on factors that help unite—rather than divide—the American people.

Legacy stories contribute to our nation’s social fabric. These stories are permanently stored and easily accessed on our Web-based Heritage Honor Roll and on the home pages of our Legacy Partners. Many of them illustrate the role immigrants have played and continue to play in our nation’s growth. Other stories highlight the contributions of our nation’s military, first responders, seniors and ethnic and cultural groups.

Besides receiving social studies resources that can be used at multiple grade levels, our language arts project helps students celebrate their identity, control how they are thought of and record significant events in their lives. They learn that legacies are built every time a personal, academic or professional milestone is achieved. In doing so, students reinforce David McCollough’s belief that “history is the story of people” and come to appreciate the importance of sharing and preserving everybody’s story.

By helping others use technology to incorporate images and recordings into their legacy stories, students can earn community service learning credits. As they master working with templates and improve their communication skills, they can also contribute writing and translating assistance. Through these experiences, students come to appreciate how volunteerism can benefit and strengthen their community.